

Office of the Fleet Chaplain
COMSERVPAC, Box 19, Navy 128
FPO, San Francisco, Calif.

In reply refer to:

FF4-15
69:484:fdd
16 September 1963

CDR M.J. Bouterse, CHC, USN
Office of the Chaplain
U.S.S. MARKAB (AR 23)
Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

Dear Chaplain Bouterse:

I just received your letter of 10 September and was surprised to learn of your decision to retire from the Navy.

Retirement is something that comes to all of us in due time. When a Chaplain, like yourself, has given twenty-five years of his life to minister to the needs of service personnel, perhaps he has done more than his share. I feel sure that, as you look back on those years, you have no regrets but rather must experience a deep satisfaction in knowing you have served your God and your country so well.

It is my very sincere prayer as well as fervent hope that Almighty God will grant you many more years to labor in His vineyard and wherever it is, may it be a most fruitful ministry.

On behalf of the Chaplain Corps of the Navy, may I add my word of thanks for the fine service you have rendered our Corps and our Navy personnel.

Very cordially yours,



ROBERT W. COE, JR.
Captain, Chaplain Corps, U. S. Navy
Fleet Chaplain